(ख) इस संयंत्र में कार्यरत मजदूरों को वैकल्पिक रोजगार देने के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या योजना है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में उर्वरक विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० प्रभु) : (क) भारतीय उर्वरक निगम के सिन्दरी उर्वरक कम्पलेक्स में दो संयंत्र हैं, अर्थात सिन्दरी सुव्यवस्थीकरण संयंत्र तथा सिन्दरी आधुनिकीकरण संयंत्र। केवल सिन्दरी सुव्यवस्थीकरण संयंत्र को बन्द करने का प्रस्ताव है, जिसने कच्चे माल की घटिया किस्म तथा डिजाइन त्रुटियों के कारण अक्तूबर, 1984 से उत्पादन करना बन्द कर दिया है।

(ख) फालतू कर्मचारियों को स्वैच्छिक सेवा निवृत्ति का प्रस्ताव देने का निर्णय किया गया है।

Research on pulses

2129. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp spurt in the prices of pulses in recent months;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the agricultural research in the country has by and large concentrated on wheat and to some extent on rice and the pulses have been grossly neglected with the result that while the productivity of rice and wheat has risen noticeably, that of pulses has remained stagnant;

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard;

(e) whether it is also a fact that a National Pulses Development Project was launched in 1986-87; and

(f) if so, when; what is the amount spent so far on this project and whether it has been able to provide the right kind of thrust to pulses, and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) There has been an increasing trend in the prices of pulses which is largely due to hoarding by the traders assuming that the production of pulses might be retarded due to the prevailing drought conditions.

(c) and (d) There is no question of neglecting research work on pulses. The I.C.A.R. has a network of 31 centres including multi-disciplinary regional and sub-centres etc. For basic research on pulses, Directorate of Pulses Research has also been established since 1977 at Kanpur.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) was started in 1986-87 and a sum of Rs. 463.22 lakhs was released to the States under this project and Rs. 550.59 lakhs for the year 1987-88 has been provided to the States. It is expected that NPDP would provide the right kind of thrust at the State level. The components provided in National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) are:—

1. Distribution of Seed Minikits.
2. Block Demonstrations.
3. Adaptive trials.
4. Biological control of pod borer.
5. Training of extension workers.
6. Production of breeder and foundation seed.
7. Plant protection chemicals.
8. Organisation of seed villages.
9. Stocking and pre-positioning of seed.